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****ESRC DTC Processes for Overseas Institutional Visits (OIV)**

**Guidance for current ESRC DTC students**

**Requirements**

OIV funds can be used to provide financial support and time for you to:

* undertake additional specialist research training not available in the UK;
* develop language skills;
* establish research links that will be beneficial to your current or future academic career;
* disseminate early research findings;
* attend and participate in seminars where directly relevant to your research.

Other terms and conditions attached to the OIV funds are as follows:

* Any overseas trips must be concluded three months prior to the end of the funded period of the studentship;
* Funding is only available to those in the PhD element of their award;
* Only one OIV is permitted during the course of the studentship.

**Awards available**

Using the funds devolved from the ESRC, the Birmingham ESRC DTC will make three OIV awards per year to ESRC funded PGRs, which will comprise:

* £1,500 grant to support the costs of an overseas visit;
* An extension to your research period equal to the length of the visit up to a maximum of 3 months;
* A funded extension to your stipend equal to the length of the visit up to a maximum of 3 months.

The DTC may, at its discretion, make a fourth grant available per year subject to the availability of funds.

The OIV awards will be made on a competitive basis, and applications will be considered twice yearly by the DTC Director.

**Process**

Applicants should complete the application form detailing the planned visit and the added value that this will generate. The application should be signed by the supervisor and submitted by the deadlines along with a supporting letter or statement from the proposed host. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.

The DTC will consider all applications and advise the outcome within a month of the application being submitted.